

106TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4648

To provide for grants to establish the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland
memorial fellowship programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 13, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on Inter-
national Relations, for a period to be subsequently determined by the
Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within
the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for grants to establish the Bill Emerson and
Mickey Leland memorial fellowship programs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS; PURPOSES.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Congressional Hunger Fellows Act of 2000”.

6 (b) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds as follows:

7 (1) There is a critical need for compassionate
8 individuals who are committed to assisting people
9 who suffer from hunger as well as a need for such

1 individuals to initiate and administer solutions to the
2 hunger problem.

3 (2) Bill Emerson, the distinguished late Rep-
4 resentative from the 8th District of Missouri, dem-
5 onstrated his commitment to solving the problem of
6 hunger in a bipartisan manner, his commitment to
7 public service, and his great affection for the institu-
8 tion and the ideals of the United States Congress.

9 (3) George T. (Mickey) Leland, the distin-
10 guished late Representative from the 18th District
11 of Texas, demonstrated his compassion for those in
12 need, his high regard for public service, and his live-
13 ly exercise of political talents.

14 (4) The special concern that Mr. Emerson and
15 Mr. Leland demonstrated during their lives for the
16 hungry and poor was an inspiration for others to
17 work toward the goals of equality and justice for all.

18 (5) These two outstanding leaders maintained a
19 special bond of friendship regardless of political af-
20 filiation and worked together to encourage future
21 leaders to recognize and provide service to others,
22 and therefore it is especially appropriate to honor
23 the memory of Mr. Emerson and Mr. Leland by cre-
24 ating a fellowship program to develop and train the

1 future leaders of the United States to pursue careers
2 in humanitarian service.

3 (c) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

4 (1) to encourage future leaders of the United
5 States to pursue careers in humanitarian service, to
6 recognize the needs of people who are hungry and
7 poor, and to provide assistance and compassion for
8 those in need;

9 (2) to increase awareness of the importance of
10 public service; and

11 (3) to provide training and development oppor-
12 tunities for such leaders.

13 **SEC. 2. GRANTS FOR HUNGER FELLOWSHIPS.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to amounts appropriated
15 under section 7 for such purpose, the Secretary shall
16 award a grant to the Center to enable the Center to estab-
17 lish and conduct Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hunger
18 Fellowships.

19 (b) PROVISION FOR DIRECT PAYMENT TO CEN-
20 TER.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law,
21 amounts appropriated under section 7 may be paid di-
22 rectly to the Center.

23 **SEC. 3. DESCRIPTION OF HUNGER FELLOWSHIPS.**

24 (a) IN GENERAL.—Amounts received by the Center
25 under section 2 shall be used to carry out the Bill Emer-

1 son Hunger Fellowship and the Mickey Leland Hunger
2 Fellowship.

3 (b) CURRICULUM.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—The fellowships shall provide
5 education and training to develop the skills and un-
6 derstanding necessary to improve the humanitarian
7 conditions and the lives of individuals who suffer
8 from hunger, including—

9 (A) training in direct service to the hungry
10 in conjunction with community-based organiza-
11 tions through a program of field placement; and

12 (B) experience in policy development
13 through placement in a governmental entity or
14 nonprofit organization.

15 (2) FOCUS OF BILL EMERSON HUNGER FEL-
16 LOWSHIP.—The Bill Emerson Hunger Fellowship
17 shall address hunger and other humanitarian needs
18 in the United States.

19 (3) FOCUS OF MICKEY LELAND HUNGER FEL-
20 LOWSHIP.—The Mickey Leland Hunger Fellowship
21 shall address international hunger and other human-
22 itarian needs.

23 (c) PERIOD OF FELLOWSHIP.—A fellowship awarded
24 under this section shall be for a period of not less than
25 12 months and not more than 24 months.

1 (d) SELECTION OF FELLOWS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—A fellowship shall be award-
3 ed pursuant to a nationwide competition established
4 by the Center.

5 (2) QUALIFICATION.—A successful applicant
6 shall be an individual who has demonstrated both a
7 desire to pursue a career in humanitarian service
8 and outstanding potential for such a career.

9 (3) AMOUNT OF AWARD.—Each individual
10 awarded a fellowship under this section shall receive
11 an educational award and living allowance as deter-
12 mined by the Center.

13 (4) RECOGNITION OF FELLOWSHIP AWARD.—

14 (A) EMERSON FELLOW.—An individual
15 awarded a fellowship from the Bill Emerson
16 Hunger Fellowship shall be known as an
17 “Emerson Fellow”.

18 (B) LELAND FELLOW.—An individual
19 awarded a fellowship from the Mickey Leland
20 Hunger Fellowship shall be known as a “Le-
21 land Fellow”.

22 (e) EVALUATION.—The Center shall conduct periodic
23 evaluations of the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland Hun-
24 ger Fellowships.

1 **SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.**

2 (a) **AUTHORITY TO INVEST FUNDS.**—Notwith-
3 standing any other provision of law, the Center may hold
4 funds granted to it under section 2 in interest-bearing ac-
5 counts, prior to the disbursement of such funds for the
6 uses specified in section 3(a), and may retain for such pur-
7 poses any interest earned on such deposits without return-
8 ing such interest to the Treasury of the United States and
9 without further appropriation by the Congress.

10 (b) **COMPENSATION.**—No part of the grant amount
11 available to the Center shall inure to the benefit of any
12 board member, officer, or employee of the Center, except
13 as salary or reasonable compensation for services or ex-
14 penses associated with carrying out the fellowships under
15 section 3. Compensation for board members shall be lim-
16 ited to reimbursement for reasonable costs of travel and
17 expenses.

18 (c) **AUDITS.**—For each fiscal year in which the Cen-
19 ter receives a grant under section 2, the accounts of the
20 Center may be audited at any time by the Secretary. The
21 Center shall keep such records as will facilitate effective
22 audits.

23 (d) **CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.**—For each fiscal
24 year in which the Center receives a grant under section
25 2, the Center shall be subject to appropriate oversight pro-
26 cedures of Congress.

1 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

2 Not later than December 31 of each year, the Center
3 shall submit to the Secretary and to Congress a report
4 on the activities of the Bill Emerson and Mickey Leland
5 Hunger Fellowships carried out during the previous fiscal
6 year.

7 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) CENTER.—The term “Center” means the
10 Congressional Hunger Center (which is an organiza-
11 tion described in subsection (c)(3) of section 501 of
12 the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and is exempt
13 from taxation under subsection (a) of such section).

14 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
15 the Secretary of Agriculture.

16 **SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 There are authorized to be appropriated to the Sec-
18 retary such sums as are necessary to make grants under
19 section 2 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2009.

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